



Get to know the Army's Sexual Abuse Response and Prevention Program, Page 3A.



Jekyll Island offers an abundance of family activities. See story, Page 1B.

Updated sick call procedures for Soldiers — know what to do when you are ill. See briefs, Page 11A.

Army Women's Basketball Coach Dixon dies. See story, Page 1C.



Use of cell phones prohibited while driving on post

Frontline Staff

It's official; it is now illegal to drive on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Aifield while using a cell phone. Fort Stewart has recently adopted the Code of Federal Regulation Title, which prohibits the use of cellular phones while operating a vehicle, with the exception of hands-free devices. The Directorate of Public Works has completed

placement of warning signs at each of the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Access Control Points. Beginning April 24, the Fort Stewart police have been directed to initiate the enforcement by issuing citations to violators. Military personnel in violation will be cited under Article 92, UCMJ, issued an Armed Forces Traffic Ticket and be given three installation driving points. Civilian personnel in violation will be cited and

issued a U.S. District Court notice with a collateral of \$50 and also be given three installation driving points. Vehicle operators on a Department of Defense installation and operators of government-owned vehicles shall not use cell phones unless the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device. Wearing of other portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices (except for hand-free cell

phones) while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited. Use of those devices impairs driving and masks or prevents recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, the approach of vehicles and human speech. Drivers should also limit other distractions such as eating and drinking, operating radios, CD players, global positioning equipment, etc. Whenever possible these should only be done when the vehicle is safely parked.

'Rock-Mania' invades Fort Stewart



Spc. Giancarlo Casem

A Girl A Gun A Ghost guitarist, Derek Lynch, performs for Soldiers at Sports USA, on Fort Stewart Friday. Six bands performed at the first show of a monthly concert series. See story, Page 4A.

Month of the Military Child Army children launch new communication Web site

Steven Donald Smith
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Children of U.S. Soldiers spearheaded a project to launch a Web site that enables Army youth around the world to communicate with each other.

The "Real Teens Connected" Web site, which went live this winter, is a product of the Army's Child and Youth Services Army Teen Panel, and is geared toward teenagers 13-18 years old.

The site offers a variety of services to all Army-affiliated youth, including news updates, relocation information and stories written by Army kids.

"Kids want to connect with other kids who are in like situations," Pamela Tomlinson, deputy director of the Army's Child and Youth Services, said. "The idea was a Web site that would focus on linking all teens, regardless of military component, in a venue they are all familiar with and like to use, which is the Internet."

A secure online chat room and bulletin board will soon be added.

"The reason we wanted to incorporate a secure chat room and a bulletin board is to create a safe site where the teens can talk to each other," said Donna McGrath, a sports and fitness program manager for the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center and senior adult adviser for the Army Teen Panel.

The Web site will allow the teens to express "what it's like to be the child of a military person, and just talk about what's going on with them," McGrath said. "It is absolutely youth-led."

The idea for the Web site was spawned when Army Teen Panel members came together and realized they needed a way to better communicate with each other.

After determining the Internet was the best method to do this, they brought the idea to the adults, Tomlinson said.

After the adults agreed about the merits of the project, the teens created a mission statement and marketing plan and designed the registration process, she said.

"It's a youth-generated, adult-mentored process that the Army Teen Panel undertook over a period of little less than a year — to develop and come up with a marketing plan and talk about goals and objectives," Tomlinson said.

The panel is a group of teens who meet twice a year to discuss concerns that affect Army youth and work on projects to help resolve these concerns.

Members of the panel come from active, Reserve and Guard families, and each command and national region comprises the membership, Tomlinson said.

The Real Teens Connected project had a "soft launch" at this year's Army Family Action Plan Conference in January, she said, and will be rolled out with more fanfare this month, which is designated as the Month of the Military Child.

The Real Teens Connected Web page is hosted through the Boys and Girls Club of America YouthNet Web site, www.bgcayouthnet.org — first-time users must register there before accessing the Real Teen Connected page.

Returning users then just click on the "Army Teens" menu tab and type their user name and password to enter.

Eligible youths must also have an Army Knowledge Online account that is sponsored through a parent or guardian.

The goal is to have 18,000 kids register on the Web site over the next six months and to eventually move the site up to the Defense Department level, where children of all services and DoD civilians can communicate, Tomlinson said.

"Needless to say, we're very excited about this program," Tomlinson said. "These teenagers are really phenomenal kids."

Parent University empowers local parents

Nancy Gould
Frontline Staff

Local parents listened to Mike O'Neal, executive director and founder of Parent University, as he explained the program's seven-year history and how it has benefited participants at Pulaski Elementary School. The classes ranged from self-development, such as how to deal with stress, to practical training, such as how to raise a reader and how to help with homework. "This is the second time Parent University has come to Pulaski, primarily for our military parents," said Barbara Cavender, the Hunter Army Airfield school liaison officer, who requested the program. "We have a successful partnership with Mike O'Neal. Parent University has benefited our parents."

As a parent himself, O'Neal realized several years ago that to help his own children, he needed more information and knowledge about how educational processes work. "Many of my own school experiences were negative," O'Neal said. "I needed to change my thinking and let my kids see a more positive, enthusiastic attitude about school and the learning process." He believed that informational classes conducted by subject matter experts would instill knowledge and confidence in parents. He also believed that peer support from other parents who attended would help parents feel less isolated. And, because O'Neal was not in the educational system, he believed he could understand and advocate effectively for the other parents' needs. Joyce Stamper, a mother who attended the

event, said she needed encouragement and information now that her 6-year-old son is a kindergarten at Pulaski Elementary School. "I have a 23-year-old, a 17-year-old and a 6-year-old," Stamper said. "It feels like I'm starting over with my six year old. I need all the help I can get." O'Neal said the classes vary at different sessions but he has enough subject matter experts, many of them teachers, to conduct more than 60 classes. Funding has come through grants, the city, the school system and corporations and is handled through the United Way. Young children were occupied with activities and arts and craft sessions, provided by Savannah Vocational School students. Counselors from a local 4-H center entertained youth, ages 9 to 17, and led activities that included seed planting and other outdoor events.



Nancy Gould

Youth plant seeds in paper cups while their parents attend Parent University at Pulaski Elementary School April 1.

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

Speed, fatigue can kill

3rd Infantry Division Safety Office

At 4 a.m., Jan. 8, three Soldiers were returning to Fort Stewart from Savannah on Highway 144 in a rented 2004 Chevrolet Impala when they went off the road and hit a tree.

All three Soldiers were wearing their seatbelts. The impact caused the driver to slam into the roof of the car, resulting in three fractured and displaced vertebrae in his neck. The other two Soldiers, riding in the back, received minor injuries.

The driver's injuries would prove fatal on Jan. 19.

The driver did not drink while in Savannah and volunteered to drive the other two Soldiers, who had been drinking, back to post.

The police report indicated that the speed of the vehicle at the time of the accident was at least 86 miles per hour in a 55 mph zone.

The driver apparently fell asleep and lost control of the vehicle. He overcorrected, causing the vehicle to veer into the opposite lane, then off the road and into a tree.

The driver was an exemplary Soldier. He won the Soldier of the Quarter and excelled on the Sergeant's Board the month prior to the accident.

It had only been 16 hours since he returned from Operation Iraqi Freedom III.

He had received safety briefings from his

commander prior to leaving Baghdad, in Kuwait, and upon returning to Fort Stewart. All of which included a directive not to drive for a minimum of 24 hours after returning home.

Contributing factors to the accident included the Soldier's level of fatigue and the speed he was driving.

The Soldier had just gotten off the last leg of a 22-hour flight from Kuwait, after a five-day trip to Baghdad.

The driver was excited to be home and was overeager to participate in evening activities on his first day back.

The driver was also unfamiliar with operating a civilian vehicle after a year of driving an M-1114 humvee.

Accidents can be prevented. Leaders need to stress the effects of fatigue and speed in their safety briefs. Implement a rest plan prior to, and after, traveling.

Leaders and Soldiers need to discuss their plans with another person as a sanity check. Stress the

importance of obeying speed limits and other traffic laws. Drive defensively.

Commanders, brief your Soldiers on the circumstances surrounding this accident and emphasize the consequences of fatigue and speed.

Be Safe, Win the Fight!



Courtesy Photo

A Soldier Died as a result of his accident on highway 144, Jan. 8, which was attributed to fatigue and speed.




**\$300.00
REWARD**
(0290-05-CID093-21394)

A reward of \$300.00 is being offered for information leading to the recovery of the property and/or the arrest and conviction for the person(s) responsible for the Larceny of 12 Tungsten T5 Palm Pilots, one Sony ICD-ST25 digital voice recorder, and one HP iPaq Bluetooth GPS-navigation system from B Co, 37th Infantry Battalion, Fort Stewart, GA 31314. The incident occurred between 11 – 13 Oct 05 in Building 724, Fort Stewart, GA 31314.

Anyone having knowledge of the incident, but not wishing to be identified, will be briefed on available options in maintaining their confidentiality.

Those with information concerning this matter are encouraged to call the US Army CID office located at Fort Stewart, GA at (912) 767-5030 (POC is SA PELTON), or the Military Police Desk, Fort Stewart, GA (912) 767-4895.



Garrison CSM Corner

Command Sgt. Maj. Charles E. Durr Jr.

PCS checklist

A few months ago, I wrote an article that addressed the upcoming transition season for Soldiers and families due to permanent change of station, expiration term of service and retirement during March through June.

The garrison support agencies are committed to ensuring that this is a smooth transition for Soldiers and their families.

To help minimize the physical and emotional challenges associated with transition-

ing during this peak season, our agencies have put together a quick reference checklist that is printed below in this week's issue of the Frontline.

I sincerely hope that you will find this checklist beneficial in minimizing stress, and provide you with the peace of mind so that you are prepared to transition smoothly. Feel free to contact our support agencies should you have any questions or concerns.


FS

PCS

/

HAAF

List



If you are PCSing outside the continental United States (OCONUS), or to a remote location with family members, here are a few tips to make your move hassle-free:

ALPHABETICAL LIST of DOCUMENTS YOU WILL WANT to LOCATE and HAND CARRY


- Adoption papers
- Bank account information
- Birth certificates
- Car registration
- Car titles
- Child support
- Citizenship papers
- Complete military address of military member
- Court orders for divorce
- Credit card account information
- Family and gaining unit POC
- Household goods shipping documents
- ID cards
- Installment payment contracts
- LES statement
- Marriage certificates
- Medical and Dental records
- Orders, TDY or PCS
- Passports
- Phone numbers for friends
- POV shipping documents
- Power of attorney
- Recent report cards
- Shot records & Social Security cards
- Stock and bond certificates
- Travel orders
- Will

Marne Voices Speak Out

How could you make PCSing easier?


“Nothing would make it easier. There is no quick fix. It is what it is.”

Theresa Morris
Family member




“If we had a choice of where we would want go, then we’d want to leave.”

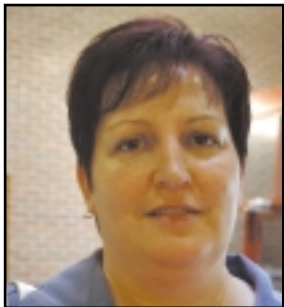
Sgt. Willard Comeaux
5ft Bn., 52nd ADA



“Let us know at least three months out, It’s hard, especially with young children.”


Leah Shreves
Family member





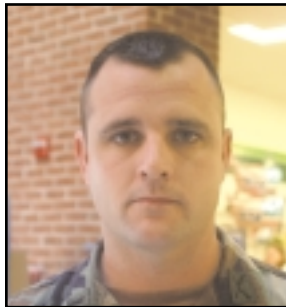
“Start getting involved early enough and try to avoid stress.”

Gabriele Jones
Family member



“Get rid of CIF completely. A one-time initial issue would help out a lot.”

Cpl. Steven Jones
3rd Bn., 7th Inf.



“Home stations should give us more time to prepare, instead of rushing.”

1st Lt. Kevin Jones
3-20 SF Group

Voice your opinion!

Write a letter to the editor!

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Building 600C
Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-4941
or fax it to 912-767-9366.

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Victims of sexual assault have right to decide

Spc. JeNell Mattair

50th Public Affairs Det.

The Army's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program is the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff's directive on reducing sexual assault cases in the Army.

Chapter Eight of Army Regulation 600-20 documents the Army policy on sexual assault. states that sexual assault is a criminal offense that has no place in the Army and degrades mission readiness by devastating the Army's ability to work effectively as a team. It is incompatible with the Army Values and is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The SAPR program reinforces the Army's commitment to eliminating incidents of sexual assault through a comprehensive policy that centers on awareness and prevention, training and education and follow-up.

"The program gives crime victims the opportunity to fully assess the situation and make a decision as to what they want to do," said Barbara Barnett, sexual assault response coordinator, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. "It gives them time to decide whether or not they want to come forward."

Victims have the option of restricted or unrestricted reporting.

Restricted reporting allows a Soldier who is sexually assaulted to disclose the details of the assault to specifically identified individuals and receive medical treatment and counseling without triggering the investigative process.

Soldiers who are sexually assaulted and desire restricted reporting under the Army policy should report the assault to a sexual assault response coordinator, victim advocate, chaplain or healthcare provider.

With a restricted report, law enforcement

will not be informed, nor does the command become involved. Unfortunately, this eliminates the opportunity for alleged perpetrators to be held accountable, Barnett said.

The SARC may only inform the senior mission commander that an assault has occurred and restrict information about the assault to non-identifying information, unless an exception to nondisclosure occurs.

Restricted reporting is intended to give victims enough time and more control over the release and management of personal information, Barnett said.

Sexual assaults must only be reported to an SARC, victim advocate, chaplain or healthcare provider if the victim wants a restricted report.

A Soldier who is sexually assaulted and desires an official investigation should make an unrestricted report. He should use normal reporting channels. Details regarding the assault will only be made known to those who have the need, including the commander, Criminal Investigation Command, military police, SARC, victim advocate, chaplain and healthcare provider, Barnett said.

To make an unrestricted report Soldiers can contact the SARC, victim advocate, healthcare provider, chaplain, chain of command, military police, CID, Army Community Service, Staff Judge Advocate, local and state police or Army One Source.

Unrestricted reporting is intended to ensure the widest range of rights and protections are afforded to the victim and to provide command support, officials said. It also allows for a full investigation, such as crime scene processing, witness interviews and suspect interrogation, which enhances opportunity to hold the offender accountable, officials said.

"Imagine yourself walking around when the crime is your body. You can't get away from the



crime-scene," Barnett said. "As the command begins to understand the new program, they will have more tools to work with to better support victims."

There are many consequences of not reporting sexual assault. The Army is unable to provide medical care and counseling when a sexual assault goes unreported. The chain of command becomes unable to appropriately care for victims and punish criminals. If not reported, a perpetrator may assault others, officials said.

Sexual assault includes offenses such as rape, forcible sodomy and indecent assault. It is punishable under different articles of the UCMJ. Depending upon the offense and circumstances of the crime, maximum punishments include death, confinement for life without eligibility of parole, confinement for a period of years, total loss of all pay and allowances, dishonorable dis-

charge, bad conduct discharge and reduction to private, officials said.

Victims of sexual assault have rights, officials said. Victims have the right to decide whether they want to make a restricted or unrestricted report. They have the right to be treated with fairness, dignity and respect. They have the right to be reasonably protected from the accused offender and to be notified of court proceedings, officials said. They may be present at all public court proceedings related to the offense and can confer with the attorney for the government in the case. They have the right to information regarding conviction, sentencing, imprisonment and release of the offender from custody.

For more information on the SAPR program go to Web site: www.sexualassault.army.mil or call the ACS, 767-1035, 315-6816 or 315-5343.



Photos by Spc. Giancarlo Casem

Dora Maar guitarist Levi Hamilton shows off his guitar prowess during a concert at Sports USA at Fort Stewart Friday.

Local bands bring ‘Rock-Mania’ to Stewart Soldiers

Spc. Giancarlo Casem
50th Public Affairs Det.

Six local rock bands took to the stage and rocked out for a group of Soldiers at Sports USA on Fort Stewart Friday.

The show was intended to provide some Soldiers on Fort Stewart with a venue to hear music more attuned to their tastes.

“This was a good opportunity for the Soldiers to come and see music that they like,” said Bob Martinez, event organizer. “These guys were over there doing all the hard work, and this was a way for us to say thank you.”

Martinez and his son Michael notified the local bands of the show through an internet community Web site.

“These kids are good kids and it’s important that they have a place to play,” he said. “I’m just trying to support them and give them a chance to play.”

The Soldiers in attendance were apprehensive at first as they did not know what to expect from the bands. The first performers, 86 Charley, played to a nearly empty floor. However, by the last band, A Girl A Gun A Ghost, the floor was full of slam-dancers.

For the all bands that played, this was their first opportunity playing for a crowd mostly made up of Soldiers.

“I had no idea (the Soldiers) were like

this,” said Randall Dowling, guitarist for the band Fortified. “They were very energetic, they just went loose.”

The band, from Jessup, Ga., has played at many local venues, but never at Fort Stewart.

“They seemed to have received it very well,” Dowling said. “It was a great show and hopefully we can do it again.”

Martinez said he plans to have more bands come to Fort Stewart and perform for the Soldiers, as long as the Soldiers support it.

“I want to have a concert once a month,” he said. “The more Soldiers that come, the more we’ll be having these.”

Pvt. Shawn Berkman, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry, said he would want more bands to come.

“It’s great having the music come to you,” Berkman said.

Berkman, a new Soldier, was not aware of the entertainment that is available to Soldiers.

“This is a bonus, I no had idea they did this kind of thing,” he said. “If this could happen more often, (the Soldiers) would completely support this event.”

Berkman, along with the other Soldiers may have gotten their wish.

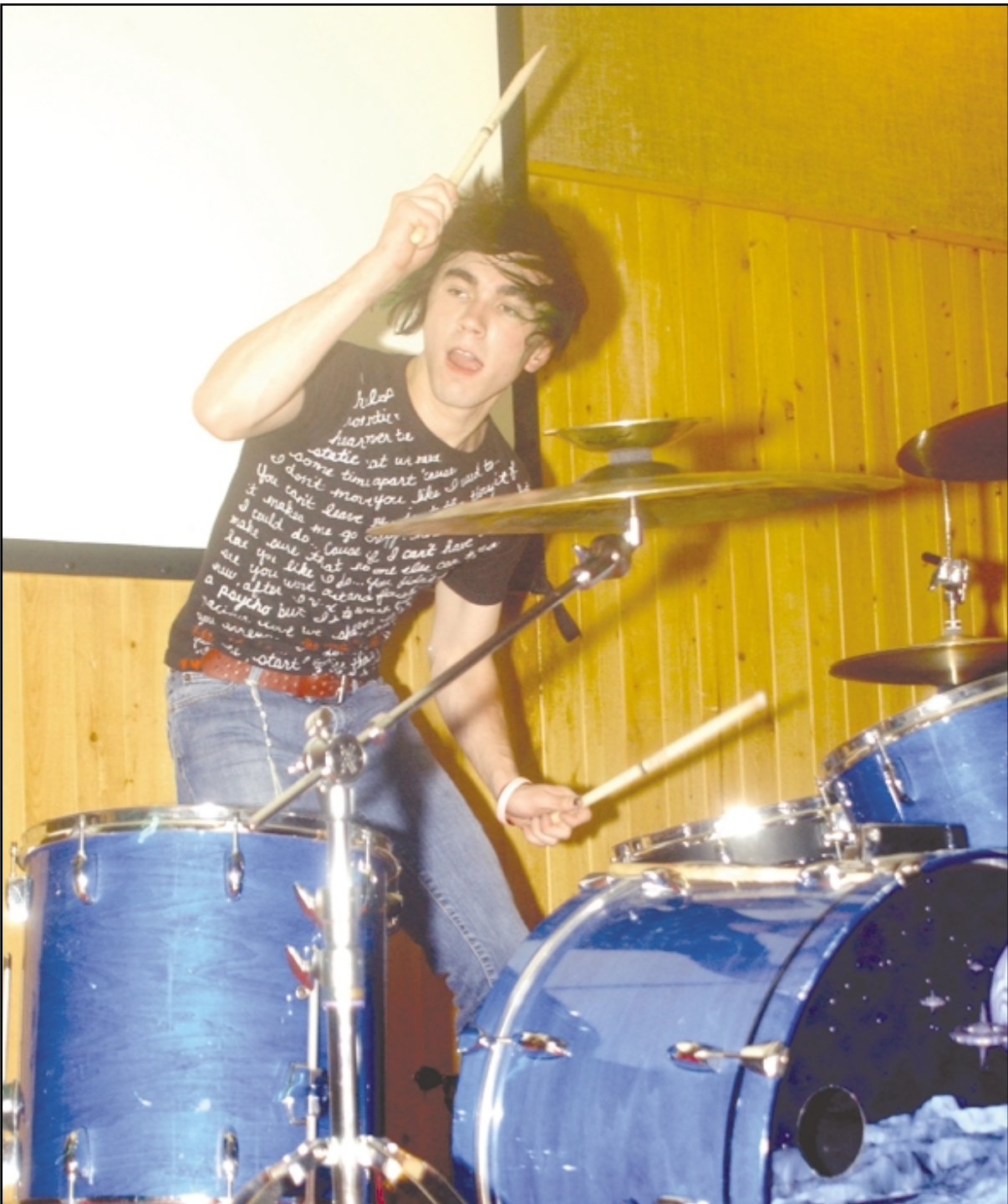
“It was definitely encouraging,” Martinez said. “We already have five bands lined up for next month. We’re going to start calling the shows, ‘Rock-Mania.’”



Above: Fortified frontman Noah Cothorn gets up close and personal with Fort Stewart Soldiers. Below: Fortified drummer Jonathan McCullough ends his band’s set with a drum flurry.



86 Charley guitarist Damian Fedorko channels guitar legends of old during his band’s performance Friday.



Heroes of Objective Curly reunite, relive actions



SpC. Jimmy D. Lane

Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Gallagher, former 3rd Bn., 15th Inf. command sergeant major, explains various aspects of a painting depicting combat action of Objective Curly to Capt. Matthew McKenna, Aide de Camp for the assistant division commander (maneuver).

SpC. Jimmy D. Lane Jr.
2nd BCT Public Affairs

Soldiers who served with 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment and were present during Objective Curly in Operation Iraqi Freedom I reunited at the Fort Stewart Museum April 7.

The OIF veterans gathered to see the unveiling of a painting done by artist Larry Selman, and to watch a portion of the video of the battle filmed by Craig White of the National Broadcasting Corporation.

The painting centered on Capt. Zan Hornbuckle performing buddy aid on Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Gallagher while under heavy fire from Iraqi Soldiers.

“This was just one of many battles occurring that day,” said Lt. Col. Denton Knapp, former 3/15 Inf. executive officer. “As (our Soldiers) seized Objectives Larry, Moe and Curly, we knew that task forces ahead of us would depend on our ability to hold key terrain and keep the lines of communication open. We did just that, and we did it with action, heart and soul. This was captured in the memories of all who were there.”

“While recreating this event in this painting, I felt like I know each and every one of you,” Selman said. “It was an honor and a privilege to be commissioned to do this. This is now a piece of history, and a hundred years from now our grandchildren will be able to view this painting at the War College.”

Gallagher gave his rendition of the events of that day, explaining different Soldiers’ reactions to the battle, drawing laughs from Soldiers who were attending the ceremony.

“Taking and keeping this objective was a team effort,” Gallagher said. “We lost Soldiers that day, so our victory did come with a price.”

Knapp said the unveiling was a chance for the Soldiers who served during the operation to get back together and commemorate the acts of heroism committed on that day.

“This is the opportunity to get back together with our brothers and sisters, share old memories and heal old wounds,” Knapp said. “It was a historical fight. I am honored to be a part of this reunion, and part of the team that was there on that day.”

Weapon wipes now come in individual packets

Pat Young
Frontline Staff

Good suggestions aren’t always packaged with shiny bells and loud whistles; often it’s the simple wrapping that sells the product.

Retired Sgt. Major Johnny Manly, a former Soldier with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Infantry Division, G-4 Logistics division, made such a suggestion to Hill Manufacturing Company that would make an enormous difference in their business.

“Manly told us our weapon cleaner and lubricant wipes, which are normally packaged 70 wipes to a container were impracticable in the desert,” said Stuart Hillman, President of Hill Manufacturing. “He recommended single packages for individual Soldiers, making

them easy to carry and less prone to contamination.”

“The wipes, designed to clean dirt and gum from weapons while protecting against rust and corrosion were getting sand in the large container, so, we adopted Manly’s idea,” Hillman said.

The product quickly became popular, overwhelming markets in neighboring states, and has reached as far as Kentucky, Hillman said.

Although no cash award was given to Manly for his suggestion, he was offered a job.

There are, however, venues where Department of the Army civilians and Soldiers can turn their ideas into possible cash awards.

The Army Suggestion Program provides cash award incentives up to \$25,000 for adopted ideas that save Government resources, according to the Army Suggestion

Program Web site, armysuggestions.army.mil.

The program seeks suggestions that improve work methods, materials, processes, equipment, logistics, utilities or tools, according to the Web site. The suggestion must present a problem or situation, propose a solution and state the benefit to the government.

The more money saved, the larger the potential award.

The Army Suggestion Program is online at armysuggestions.army.mil, but requires an Army Knowledge Online user name and password. The site also has a link to the proponent regulation for the program.

There is a save function that allows suggestors to fill out the submission packet over a period of time rather than during just one session.



SpC. Giancarlo Casem

Lube wipes are easy to carry and will protect and clean weapons.



Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

Soldiers of the 179th MP Det. salute Capt. Kevin R. Pugh, their former commander, for the last time as his troops. The unit was inactivated during a ceremony Tuesday at Fort Stewart.

MP 'Bounty Hunters' detachment inactivates

Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft
3rd Inf. Div. Public Affairs

After 38 years of serving Fort Stewart in times of peace and war, the 179th Military Police "Bounty Hunters" Detachment (then Bravo Company Military Police) was inactivated during an outdoor ceremony in front of its old headquarters Tuesday.

"A little over a year ago, this unit was given about 60 days' notice to prepare to deploy — a feat rarely considered by (Forces Command)," said Lt. Col. Samuel P. Mansberger, 385th Military Police Battalion commander. "The Bounty Hunters did not miss a beat. They broke into a full run, executing continuous operations in Iraq and Fort Stewart for the next year."

He added, "I don't know if that's 24 by 14 or 48 by seven operations, but I know it's darn busy."

Since 1968, elements of 179th have deployed to Vietnam, Uzbekistan, and most recently, Iraq, where it supported Operation Iraqi Freedom in

Diwaniyah and Mosul, Iraq.

In January 2005, members of 179th took on responsibility for five Iraqi provinces, two regional police academies and all of the military police assets in the Polish sector of Diwaniyah while attached to 18th Military Police Brigade.

In July 2005, the unit relocated to Mosul, where it was dispersed to three forward operating bases and the remotely located Mosul Police Academy.

"The 179th more than held its own in their Iraq fight," Mansberger said. "All of them returned with Multi-National Division Center-South's Service Awards, more than half returned with Combat Action Badges, and most importantly, they all returned home in one piece."

Capt. Kevin R. Pugh, 179th detachment commander, stood and addressed his Soldiers for the last time as their leader.

"The mission of the 179th is now accomplished, but the duties these Soldiers perform will continue in other units," Pugh said. "When I took command of the unit, I said that the 179th was

capable of accomplishing any mission. I confirmed this belief throughout our tour in Iraq."

"The Soldiers of this unit found themselves in nearly every corner of the country," he continued. "They helped rebuild two police academies and partnered with police, from cadets all the way up to commandants and provincial police chiefs. The question our superiors asked was not 'What can we do with the 179th?' but, 'What can't the 179th do?'"

Pugh led the Bounty Hunters with 1st Sgt. James R. Greiner, a partnership Mansberger called "perfectly matched."

After leaving 179th, Pugh will attend the Captains' Career Course and Greiner will take the position of NCO-in-charge of 385th MP Bn. security.

"Out of the ashes of the 179th will come two forces," Mansberger said. "The first is a Fort Stewart Military Police element ... (and) the second is the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment for the 385th MP Battalion. The growth of the (Military Police Corps) Regiment

is an ongoing process and we are on our way to increasing our force by almost 64 percent."

"The key here is that we are fine-tuning the force structure to better serve the needs of the Soldiers out in the field," he added, and right now the Army needs more Military Police combat battalions."

Pugh concluded the ceremony by saying, "Soldiers of the 179th, you will serve your new units well. I am proud to have been your commander. I close with a quote from Civil War General John Gordon, speaking to his troops at the end of the war:

'You have carried your enthusiasm into battle, filling your comrades with pride and your enemies with fear. Steady and unshaken have you passed through the struggle with unstained record. Your name is without the shadow of a stain. Your conduct in the closing hour is as lofty as when with full ranks, you struck and exulted in victory. Take with you, Soldiers, in parting, the unfeigned admiration of my heart.' Bounty Hunters, hunt 'em down."



Spc. Dan Balda

Pfc. Kevin Hartman, 6th Sqdn., 8th Cav., pays his final respects to his friend Spc. Benjamin Prince during Prince's memorial service at Marne Chapel April 6.

Mustangs remember fallen Soldier

Spc. Dan Balda
4th BCT Public Affairs

Marne Soldiers came together April 6 at Marne Chapel to memorialize Spc. Benjamin Prince, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade.

Prince was killed in a car accident April 1.

"Times like this leave us with a sense of overwhelming sadness and a bit angry," said Lt. Col. Michael Harris, 6-8 commander. "Mostly because someone whose friendship we enjoyed for so long and whose personality made us feel better about ourselves, has unexpectedly left us."

Harris lauded Prince's ability to enjoy any challenge he was presented with and felt a real pleasure in conducting operations with Iraqi Security Forces or conducting patrols along Airport Road as a gunner in the headquarters primary security detail.

"His level of intensity in preparing for these missions was similar to watching a high school football team conducting warmups," Harris said. "He was motivated and like a good coach took his responsibility seriously."

During the deployment, Prince gathered with his fellow Soldiers to watch movies, clean weapons and share food and stories of home.

Pfc. Kevin Hartman, a fellow HHT trooper, remembered Prince bragging about how much fun it was growing up in Arkansas, and how proud he was to help win the football state championship as a senior.

In Iraq, Prince was also there for his brethren when they needed him the most.

"When I was in Iraq and would say that I missed my family Prince would say, 'Your family is right here' and hug me," said Sgt. Stephen Johnson.

"I don't think I could have made it through the deployment without him," Hartman said. "He was the best form of stress relief there was."

"He was always willing to go screw around, have something to say or a story to tell," Hartman added. "He enjoyed making people laugh. When the people around him were happy, he was happy."

Prince's death hit Johnson especially hard because Johnson's wife had taken to calling Prince their "little brother."

"He was more than one of my Soldiers; he was part of my family," Johnson said. "He'd come over for dinner and stay to play video games with my kids. He'd get mad when my 7-year-old would beat him, but Spc. Prince wouldn't give up until he had won."

Harris asked the assembled mourners to go forward in their lives always remembering Prince and his positive personality.

"He would probably say that life was meant to be enjoyed and that we should enjoy it as he often did; perhaps by jumping off the roof of a friend's house into a swimming pool," Harris said.

"In Prince's short military career, he touched a lot of lives," Hartman said. "Through his laughter, his compassion and caring, to his way of making light of any situation: I will never forget him."

HenryCycle™

I want you to remember that recycling is mandatory on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. Blue recycling dumpsters have been positioned throughout both installations. Use these dumpsters to deposit the recyclable items that your office, business, or building generates. Help us preserve Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield's natural resources by **RECYCLING!** For more information regarding recycling, please call 912.767.8880.



Don't be a terrorist target!

You can reduce your vulnerability of becoming a terrorist target.

When traveling by airplane:

- Do not fly on a flight targeted by terrorists.
- Report suspicious or unusual activity.
- Do not fly in uniform or with military luggage.
- Sit in the middle or rear portion of the airplane.
- If your airplane is hijacked, don't say or do anything, follow the instructions of your rescuers.

Mail safety, be aware of:

- Unexpected mail.
- Postmark or return address missing.
- Unusual handwriting
- Excessive weight or size.
- Inflexibility.
- Springiness.
- Protruding wires.
- Odd Smell.
- Grease marks.
- Excessive Post.
- Metal inside.

Pace speaks on fighting tough fight in Iraq

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Americans should take pride in what U.S. forces have accomplished in Iraq, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a radio interview Wednesday.

“We should also recognize that this has been a tough fight, that it will continue to be a tough fight, but that we are doing the right thing,” Marine Gen. Peter Pace told WPTF’s Bill LuMaye in North Carolina.

Pace said the enemy in the Long War understands the role public opinion – especially American public opinion – will play. He said the enemy in Iraq and elsewhere cannot make an impact on American forces “in any significant way. They are looking to have us throw in the towel, ... and that’s why we need to stick with this,” he said.

If the United States were to walk away from Iraq, the terrorists would simply turn to the next

country, “or bring the fight to us here at home,” the general said.

LuMaye asked Pace if the whole story in Iraq is getting out. The general said that the concentration of news from Iraq is not what it was in April 2003. News organizations had hundreds of reporters embedded with coalition troops and the American people got the full range of stories from the area 24/7.

But, today the number of reporters in Iraq and the amount of time devoted to Iraq has been cut. “What gets put on – especially on television – are things that capture your eye, which is the bombs going off,” Pace said. “Digging wells and building schools and paving roads don’t quite rise to that level.”

Pace said the Iraqi military is doing a good job of taking over security in many parts of the country. More than 250,000 Iraqi Soldiers and police are now trained and equipped. Since last November, Iraqi forces have conducted more independent operations than coalition forces, Pace said.

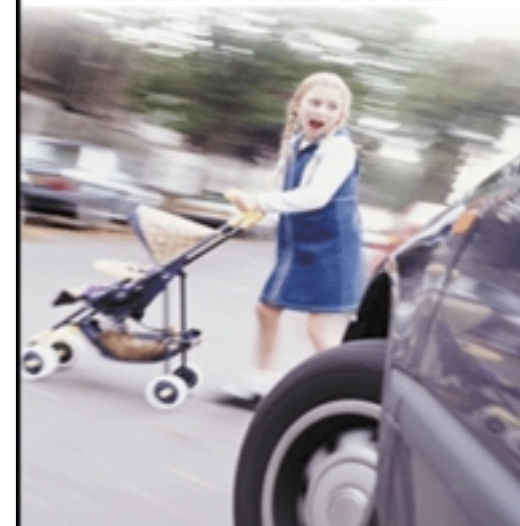
In fact, he noted, of all operations at company level or higher, the Iraqis conduct 83 percent independently or in conjunction with coalition forces. Coalition forces working alone do only 17 percent.

“As a result, Iraqis are in the lead,” Pace said. “They are taking more casualties, they are being loyal to their government and taking the fight to the enemy.”

The chairman said it is important that the coalition not leave Iraq until the government can rely on the security provided by its own armed forces. The Iraqis deserve the opportunity to put together their own democracy, he said.

He reminded listeners that for decades Iraq was a dictatorship ruled in the most oppressive manner by Saddam Hussein. “Folks who have enjoyed freedom for decades are having a hard time understanding why it might take folks who have never done this before a little while to figure it out,” he said. “We should have some patience with them, and support them so they can put together a leadership team that can take them into the future.”

**FIGHT
TERRORISTS...
DON'T
BECOME ONE.**



Please Drive Responsibly



Training Division, DPTMS

RANGE SAFETY OFFICER CLASSES at FT STEWART



•Range Safety Officer (RSO) classes are offered:

- Monday and Friday at 1330
- Wednesday at 0930.

•Priority for these classes are:

- Personnel from out of town (not Hunter or Savannah)
- Personnel with ranges within a week
- Then, 1BCT.

•Beginning Thursday, 30 Mar 06 additional Range Safety Officer (RSO) classes are being offered until further notice on:

- Tuesday at 1330
- Thursday at 0930

•These classes are on a first come – first serve basis. There are 42 seats per class. All other requirements remain the same.

•Everyone must have a copy of the memorandum signed by their Battalion Commander to get their card.

•REF: FS 385-14, Pg 17 Chapter 5, Para 5-2

DPTMS Training Management/767-6679

ROCK OF THE MARINE



Training Division, DPTMS

OIC/RSO Certification Classes now available at HAAF



**Mondays @ 9 a.m.
Bldg. 1201
Conference Room**



**Mondays @ 9 a.m.
Bldg. 1201
Conference Room**

POC is Mr. George Thomas at 315-6480

**Everyone must have a copy of the Memorandum
REF: FS 385-14, PG 17, CHAP 5, PARA 5-2**

DPTMS Training Management/767-6679

ROCK OF THE MARINE

Hunter hosts Community Appreciation Day, egg hunt

Nancy Gould
Frontline Staff

Approximately 1,000 Soldiers, family members and civilians showed up for Hunter Army Airfield's Community Appreciation Day at the Army Community Services parking lot Saturday.

An Easter Egg Hunt for approximately 300 children kicked off the celebration at 10 a.m. with overcast skies. But by 11 a.m., a strong breeze had blown away most of the clouds and made it a day of sunshine—perfect for shows, games, displays, prizes, food and fun!

"A lot of people worked hard to make this a great day for our Soldiers and their families," said Lt. Col. Carl Coffman, Hunter Army Airfield garrison commander. "This is another example of why we recently became a three-time winner of the 2006 Commander in Chief's Award for Installation Excellence."

"This is a nice set-up," said Sgt. Justin Willis, 110th Quartermaster Company, 260th Quartermaster Battalion. Willis and his two children were eager to mill around to see the events and activities.

Seven-year-old Madison Lancaster, who attended the Easter Egg Hunt with a friend, was especially thrilled.

"The best part was the camouflage egg that I found," Madison said.

The plastic eggs, "hidden" mostly in plain sight by Child and Youth Services staff, were stuffed with candy or slips of paper naming a prize. In Madison's case, her camouflage egg revealed that she won a large Easter basket, complete with dolls, makeup, jump ropes, candy and other goodies that she shared with her older



Photos by Nancy Gould

A toddler eats the candy inside a plastic egg she found during the Easter Egg Hunt Saturday.

sisters.

Nine-year-old Kylie Pouliot was among the children and adults who tried out the bunji jump.

"I loved it even though it felt like I was going to fall," she said, adding that she was eager to try it again.

Other activities included a Red Cross display; Tuttle Army Health Clinic's medical and dental displays; environment static displays; the Okefenokee Joe and Birds of Prey shows; MP and Frisbee Dog shows; a ball toss, a moon walk for older and younger children and a rock-climbing wall. The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department was also on hand talking to children and their parents and riding horses, which children were allowed to pet.

Before the day was over, more than \$4,000 worth of prizes were given away, according to James Dean, Hunter garrison operations officer and event organizer.

"We drew the names of prize winners every 30 minutes throughout most of the day. They included \$900 in shopping sprees for the Hunter Commissary," Dean said.

Dean said he appreciated those who helped plan and work at the event, especially those who came from Fort Stewart for the day.

"We hope to get even more community involvement next year, and more involvement from our tenant units at Hunter," he said. "We're aiming to make (next year's) Community Appreciation Day even bigger and better than this year."



Activities at the Hunter Community Appreciation Day included a rock climbing wall, a ball-toss and a moon walk.

3ID IN BRIEF

Fort Stewart/Hunter

Fort Stewart Briefs**Sick call procedures**

Soldiers in units that have battalion aid stations must report to sick call at the aid station before being seen at the Family and Troop Medical Clinic. Soldiers in units with aid stations will not report directly to the clinic for sick call. Necessary appointments will be made at battalion level.

Soldiers in units without aid stations may report directly to the clinic at 6:30 a.m. for sick call.

For routine appointments, follow-ups, chronic issues, pap exams, optometry and part one physical exams, use the appointment line, 435-6633.

Free admission to PGA Champions Tournament

The Savannah Chamber of Commerce and Savannah United Service Organizations are offering active-duty military members and their families free admission to the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf Tournament April 21 - 23 at the Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa.

Top PGA Champions Tour stars including Tom Watson, Tom Kite, Fuzzy Zoeller and Chi-Chi Rodriguez are among the many competitors in this annual stop on the Legends Tour.

Soldiers simply show their military ID card at the USO tent near the first green and join the gallery to follow their favorite players. They can also help themselves to free refreshments and beverages at the USO tent, and stick around to enjoy a free concert after play is completed each day. The opening ceremony is at 7:15 a.m. April 21 and tee times for all three days are at 7:40 a.m.

Recycling units of the quarter

Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division awards Soldiers for environmental stewardship. The winners of the first quarter 2006 Recycling Unit of the Quarter are 15th ASOS/Weather, Hunter Army Airfield and Regional Training Site Maintenance, Georgia National Guard, Fort Stewart.

Month of the Military Child celebration

A week of events are scheduled April 17 to 22 at the Post exchange in celebration of Month of the Military Child.

1-2 p.m., Monday: Story time with Francine Copes (cookies and punch)

1-2 p.m., Tuesday: Face painting

1-3 p.m., Wednesday: Jump rope and basketball shootout (give

away prizes)

1-3 p.m., April 20: Scavenger Hunt, D.A.R.E. booth with guest of honor Daren the Lion and Child Safety Kits

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 21: Coloring contest, MP Bike Rodeo and bike give-a-way

1-2 p.m. April 22: Disney and music trivia

Information Fair

The EFMP is sponsoring an Information Fair. Over 30 representatives from organizations on Fort Stewart and the surrounding community who provide services to children and adults with special health care and/or developmental needs will participate in the fair. The Fair will be held: May 4, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Club Stewart, Bldg. 405, Palmetto Room. The event is free and open to the public. Door prizes and refreshments will be available.

For more information call, 767-2587/1297/5058

New GI Bill kicker

All enlisted Soldiers currently enrolled in the Montgomery GI Bill program are eligible for the new "kicker." If they contribute \$600 now, when they use their GI bill, they will be eligible for an additional \$5,400. See an education counselor before the offer expires.

Hunter Briefs**Military Appreciation Mother's Day Contest**

If you are the husband of a Soldier, you can win a rejuvenating weekend stay at The Westin, Savannah Harbor Golf Resort for your wife (accompanied by you). All you have to do is compose a 500-1,000 word essay by May 1, detailing why she is a great mother and honorable servicewoman who deserves a relaxing getaway.

The deluxe accommodations are on Mother's Day weekend, May 13 - 14. The personalized renewal weekend experience also includes Aqua Star's renowned Mother's Day Brunch. For complete details and rules go to: www.WestinSavannah.com

Road closure

The northbound lane near the intersection of Middleground Rd. and Haley Ave. will be closed at 8:30 a.m. Monday to 6 p.m. April 21 to install a new water main for new family housing.

Please exercise extreme caution at this intersection.

Newcomers EXPO

Don't miss the Newcomers EXPO, 1-3 p.m. at Army Community

Services, with refreshments and door prizes.

Representatives from on- and off-post agencies will give out information to new Hunter residents.

Agencies scheduled to attend include Savannah Chamber of Commerce, Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce, GMH Housing, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Leisure Activities, Chatham County Schools, the School Liaison office, Hunter Spouses Club and Military One Source.

Holy Week programs at Hunter Chapel

Catholic: Holy Thursday — 5:30 p.m., today; Good Friday — noon Friday; Sunday Mass — 9:30 a.m. Sunday

Ecumenical Services: Community Living Last Supper — 7 p.m. today; Community Easter Sunrise Service with breakfast — 7 a.m. Sunday

Protestant: Sunday Celebration: 11 a.m. Sunday

Easter Brunch

Easter Brunch is offered at three separate sittings: 10:30 a.m., noon and 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Hunter Club. Easter egg hunts are scheduled at each sitting. Cost is \$11.95 for adults: half price for children, ages 9 -12; children under 8 eat for free. Get your child's picture with the Easter Bunny for free.

Call 353-7923 for reservations.

Chapel Family Night

Chapel Family Night begins with a free meal at 6 p.m. and is followed by a one-hour program, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., every Thursday.

Adults can attend one of the following one-hour classes:

Evening Vespers, with Chap. (Maj.) Lee Yoakam

Financial Peace University, with Chap. (Capt.) James McNeely

Sex and Marriage, with Chap. Brad Lewis

The Purpose Driven Life, with Chap. (1st Lt.) Donald Bickel

Book of Acts, with Chap. (Lt. Col.) Richard Quinn.

Kids and Youth classes include "Mighty-Mights," for pre-kindergarten to second grade, taught by Savannah College of Art and Design Student Christian Fellowship volunteers; "Royal Rangers/Awanas" scouting program for third to sixth grade, taught by adult volunteers from the Savannah chapters; seventh to twelfth grade youth group, taught by Young Life/Club Beyond and area youth pastor volunteers. Contract childcare is also provided for children, infant to 3 years old.

For more information, call 315-5515/5111.

Riggers pack needed supplies for Afghans

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Rautio
Joint Logistics Command PAO

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – For the neediest citizens of this mountainous country, humanitarian and relief supplies often arrive in bundles attached to parachutes dropped from Coalition aircraft to the ground.

Members of the 647th Quartermaster Company, made up of platoons from Fort Bragg, N.C., and Fort Campbell, Ky., have prepared 82 such bundles – with 45 tons of supplies – since arriving here Feb. 12.

The Soldiers are known as riggers because of their mission: rigging the bundles to parachutes and preparing them to withstand the exit from an aircraft, the descent and finally the impact with the ground.

They also are responsible for making sure they have enough supplies to build each bundle. For a winter bundle, that means blankets, shoes, sugar, stoves and coal; for a survival bundle, that means tool and hygiene kits, beans, rice, cooking oil, salt, tarpaulins and more.

Building bundles takes time and accuracy.

Bundles are built on request, based on when the aircraft will be taking off, explained Staff Sgt. Raul Mercado, a rigger deployed from Fort Campbell. Each bundle takes about 20 minutes to build.

“A container delivery system is used to prepare the supplies for the airdrop,” said Chief Warrant Officer Cortez Frazier.

The supplies are wrapped up with a cargo harness and secured to a skid board. Once a bundle is secure, a parachute is attached to its top.

A regular cargo parachute 64 feet in diameter or a high-velocity parachute 26 feet in diameter may be used. The type of chute depends on the durability of the supplies and the size of the drop zone, said Sgt. 1st Class Tommie Selmon, also from Fort Campbell.

Before a bundle is loaded onto an aircraft, it must be inspected by a member of the aircrew and a member of the rigging team. This “joint air inspection” ensures that the bundles have been properly rigged, Mercado said.

Once a bundle is on an aircraft, the crew and riggers make sure it can exit the aircraft properly, and then they attach its static line to the anchor line cable. A static line pulls out the pilot parachute, which in turn deploys the main chute when the bundle leaves the aircraft, Mercado said.

Upon landing, Coalition troops on the ground break the bundles down and distribute the contents. The parachute and other gear used to drop the supplies are returned to Bagram for future use, Mercado said.

While the riggers of the 647th don’t get to see the results of their work, they know they are making a contribution to the rebuilding of Afghanistan.

“It feels real good. I am very confident in everyone doing (his) job and everyone is happy to be here,” said Sgt. Harvey Johnson from Fort Campbell.



Sgt. 1st Class Michael Rautio

Army Sgt. Juan Felix, a rigger with the 647th Quartermaster Company based at Fort Campbell, Ky., pushes a pallet into place aboard a C-130 Hercules on Bagram Airfield. The riggers from the 647th prepare humanitarian aid and other supplies so they can be dropped in remote locations around Afghanistan.

HAAF Rangers give UGA cadets vital experience

USASOC Public Affairs

FORT BENNING, Ga. — In a typical classroom, students would not normally watch some of the Army's leading warriors slide down ropes from hovering helicopters then purposefully scatter into a building searching for the enemy.

In a rare opportunity, cadets from University of Georgia's Army Reserve Officer Training Corps program and Army Special Operations Forces Soldiers from Hunter Army Airfield turned combat training into a lesson you cannot find in traditional textbooks.

The demonstration was important combat training for Soldiers in the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, and the 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment. Known as Night Stalkers, the helicopter crews are known for their ability to fly low-level, night operations.

The demonstration was an example of a mission these Soldiers might conduct while deployed.

In this simulation, Night Stalkers flew Rangers in MH-60 helicopters to the target building where an enemy was hiding.

The Rangers quickly slid down ropes from the helicopters, a technique known as fast-roping, in this air assault raid. Rangers then scoured the building, found the enemy and left the target building hauling the enemy away in the Night Stalkers' helicopters.

"The cadets now know what speed and surprise feel like to the enemy," said Capt. Max Hanlin, the Ranger platoon leader for the demonstration.

"I was impressed with the level of professionalism of both units," said Bruce P. Rosenbloom II, a first-year ROTC cadet from Kennesaw, Ga. "They got in, got it done and got out." An international affairs major, Rosenbloom also has ambitions of being a Special Operations Forces Soldier.

"[The demonstration] presented an opportunity for our Rangers to participate in air assault operations at a time when it is not the easiest to get assets to support this type of training," said Capt. Dave Taylor, Company A commander, 1st Ranger Bn. "It was also a great opportunity to show future leaders what the capabilities of the Rangers are and to give them an up-close look at what some may not have seen of the Army up to this point in their training."

Hanlin wanted to show the cadets what a properly conducted air assault raid should look like and what is done to plan for such a mission. "A well-executed air-assault raid like the cadets saw does not happen by accident. There is a lot of training, rehearsals and hard work necessary to make it synch."

As an ROTC graduate himself, Hanlin would like to have had the opportunity to view a Ranger demonstration and ask them questions during his time as a cadet. With that in mind, he passed along important information.

"I am fortunate to work with some of the most professional non-commissioned officers in the business," he explained to the cadets. "I trust in them. Always try to lead by example and conduct detailed planning and rehearsal schedules."

Cadets also had a chance to talk with the Soldiers one-on-one at a static display showing different equipment used in combat including a medical station, communication table and helicopters.

"The cadets and Rangers were able to interact with each other," Taylor said. "The cadets got to see first hand just how knowledgeable and competent our young Rangers and non-commissioned officers are."

The UGA ROTC program's operations NCO who coordinated the cadets' participation in the event, Master Sgt. Frank James, teaches his students important lessons on what can be learned from special opera-



Courtesy photo

Two Black Hawks fly into position during a demonstration for University of Georgia ROTC cadets.

tions Soldiers. He felt this demonstration was an opportunity to educate his cadets outside the classroom.

"We wanted to participate in this demonstration to provide our freshman and sophomore (cadets) a base knowledge of what possibilities the military can provide," James said. He also wanted to show cadets the highest levels of discipline, professionalism and technical and tactical expertise.

"I was surprised at the amount of technical knowledge Rangers and Night Stalkers must master to complete their mission," said Charles Stell, a second-year cadet from Winder, Ga., majoring in computer science. "I have a renewed confidence in our military, particularly our Special Operations Forces."

"The leadership and professional-

ism of the officers and non-commissioned officers are the hallmark of our Special Operations Forces," James said. "Through this demonstration, we have shown our cadets the things they can achieve through continued hard work in the program."

This was also a chance for cadets to learn about possible careers with the Rangers and Night Stalkers in the future.

Benjamin Burch, a first-year ROTC student from Blue Ridge, Ga., is a biological chemistry major with career ambitions in the medical field, possibly as a doctor.

He learned what the Rangers knew about his future career field. "I was surprised by the amount of medical training and equipment that Rangers carry with them." Burch said he may consider possibilities

with the Rangers in the future.

The demonstration was well-worth the time for all involved. "This demonstration will serve as a discussion builder for future classes on tactics, leadership and discipline," James said.

"Our cadets were thoroughly impressed with the leadership and professionalism of the Rangers and (Night Stalkers). The cadets have a newfound respect for the tasks (these Soldiers) are asked to complete as well as all of our service members overseas."

Taylor agreed. "The Rangers had the opportunity to see the future leaders of the Army," he said. "It is important that within our professional organization we continue to reach out to those who aspire to lead our future men and women of the Army."

ASK THE JUDGE

Adoption

JAG Legal Assistance

Although the state of Georgia has many types of adoptions available, ranging from private adoptions to adult adoptions, one of the most common is the adoption of a child by a step-parent. The state governs whether an adoption can occur and what requirements must be met by the adoptive parent. To adopt a child, a person can file a Petition for Adoption in the Superior Court of the county the person lives in. This article will cover some of the common questions or concerns during a step-parent adoption.

Who may adopt?

To adopt a child, a person must meet the following criteria: the adoptive parent must have lived in Georgia for at least six months before filing the petition, must be at least 10 years older than the child, must be at least 25 years old or married and living with a spouse, and must have the money, health and mental ability to take care of a child.

Will someone come to look at my home if I adopt a child?

If adopting a step-child or a relative, the court can elect or waive the home inspection based upon a variety of factors. However, if you are adopting a non-relative through an adoption agency, then the court will order a home inspection to make sure that everything you said in the Petition for Adoption is correct.

What rights do the legal or biological parents have?

Under Georgia law, there are two types of parents: the legal parents and the biological parents. Legal parents have more rights than biological parents, however, a biological parent can also become a legal parent.

A legal father is someone who was married to the birth mother at the time of conception or birth, married to the mother after the child's birth but has recognized the child as his own, has adopted the child, has been determined by a court to be the father through a paternity order or is the biological father who has petitioned the court for legitimating to make him the legal father and the court has agreed.

The biological father is the man who impregnated the biological mother. Before an adoption can occur, a reasonable attempt to notify the biological father must be made. The biological father has 30 days to file a Petition of Legitimate with the court to become the legal father. The biological father must also notify the lawyer involved in the adoption that he has filed the Petition to Legitimate to become a legal parent.

What is the benefit of being the legal parent?

The legal parent has the right to agree to the adoption and surrender their parental rights. The legal parent has 10 days from when he surrenders his rights to the child to change his mind. The legal parent also has the right to oppose the adoption and assert his rights over the child. The court can still take away a legal parent's rights if it finds that the adoption is in the best interest of the child, the parent has abandoned the child, the parent cannot be found after a careful search, the parent is insane or unable to agree to the adoption, the parent has not used good parental care and is unable to be a proper parent, the parent has failed to communicate in a meaningful way with the child for a year, or the parent has failed to provide support for the child for a year.

Can a child decide to be adopted or not?

A child must agree to the adoption if he or she is 14 years or

older. The agreement must be in writing by the child and the judge may ask the child to appear at the final hearing to show the judge he or she agrees to be adopted.

Are there any benefits of adoption?

An adoptive parent may receive some tax benefits for the adoption. Additionally, by adopting a special needs child, a parent may be eligible to receive some assistance from the government to care for the child.

The Legal Assistance JAG office can assist with step-parent adoptions in helping a Soldier file a pro se action when the legal and biological parents have surrendered their rights and will sign a waiver of those rights. Additionally, the interests of a potential adoptive parent and any of the current legal or biological parents could be separate. All other adoption will require hiring a private adoption attorney to represent the potential adoptive parent in court.

If this article raised additional questions for you, feel free to call Legal Assistance at 767-8809 to set up an appointment or come to Brown Bag with JAG today, 11:30 a.m. in the Education Center, Rm. 246.



Kids under 4'9" are under-protected.

4 STEPS FOR KIDS



INFANT



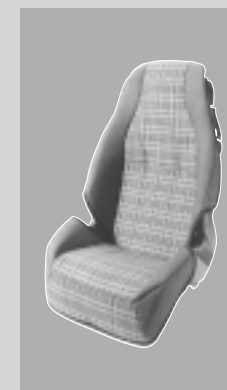
TODDLER



BOOSTER



SAFETY BELT



The #1 killer of children is car crashes. With a booster seat, your child is 59% less likely to be injured in a car crash. If they're under 4'9" they should be in a booster seat. It raises them up for a proper fit. And the right fit makes all the difference to their future.

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Council.org

www.boosterseat.gov

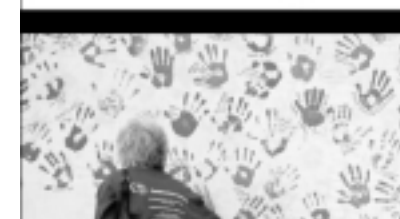
nhtsa
people saving people

Because of
YOU

...lives are saved,
lives are changed.

The American Cancer Society exists to create miracles everyday for your friends, family and neighbors in the South Atlantic Division. The money raised at Relay For Life funds programs and research grants that make an incredible difference in people's lives.

If you have not begun support Relay For Life in your community, join us today. If you have been supporting us, please remember that: Because of You, lives are saved, lives are changed.



1.800.ACL.2345
www.cancer.org
Hope. Progress. Answers.



POLICE REPORTS

Subject: Civilian, Age Unknown, Female
Charge: Simple Assault, Damage to private property
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Sergeant, 29, Male
Charge: Driving while license suspended, failure to obey lawful order
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Sergeant, 31, Male
Charge: Driving under the influence, improper backing, drunk and disorderly, damage to government property
Location: Hinesville, Ga.

Subject: Specialist, 22, Male
Charge: Wrongful use of marijuana
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Private, 20, Male
Charge: Wrongful use of marijuana
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Family Member, 22, Female
Charge: Wrongful possession of marijuana
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Civilian, 47, Male
Charge: Failure to exercise due care, failure to report traffic accident, too fast for conditions
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Specialist, 27, Male
Charge: Excessive speed
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Specialist, 22, Male
Charge: Driving while license suspended, failure to stop at a posted stop sign
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Civilian, 43, Male
Charge: Fraud and misuse of visas, permits, documents, driving while license suspended
Location: Hunter Army Airfield

Subject: Private, 24, Male
Charge: Failure to obey order or regulation
Location: Hunter AAF

Subject: Specialist, 21, Male
Charge: Wrongful use of marijuana
Location: Hunter AAF

Subject: Civilian, 48, Male
Charge: Criminal trespass
Location: Hunter AAF

Subject: Private, 21, Male
Charge: Domestic assault
Location: Savannah, Ga.

Subject: Civilian, 25, Male
Charge: Criminal trespass
Location: Hunter AAF

Subject: Sergeant, 25, Male
Charge: Contempt of court, obstruction of justice, battery
Location: Savannah, Ga.

Subject: Specialist, 31, Male
Charge: Reckless driving, fleeing or attempting to elude
Location: Hinesville, Ga.

Subject: Sergeant, 35, Male
Charge: Driving while license suspended, speeding, suspended registration, no valid insurance
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Civilian, 29, Male
Charge: Driving while license suspended
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Sergeant, 24, Male
Charge: Driving while license suspended, loud music
Location: Hinesville, Ga.

Subject: Civilian, 49, Male
Charge: Following too closely
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Civilian, 48, Female
Charge: Improper backing
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Specialist, 34, Male
Charge: Driving on suspended license, speeding, improper backing
Location: Savannah, Ga.

Subject: Specialist, 21, Male
Charge: Damage to private property
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Private, 22, Male
Charge: Wrongful use of marijuana
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Specialist, 28, Male
Charge: Drunken driving, failure to maintain lane
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Specialist, 22, Male
Charge: Drunken driving, speeding
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Civilian, 36, Female
Charge: No insurance, speeding 68/55
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Civilian, 32, Female
Charge: Driving while license suspended, no insurance, speeding
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Private, 24, Male
Charge: Driving under the influence, reckless driving
Location: Hinesville, Ga.

Subject: Specialist, 21, Male
Charge: Driving while license suspended
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Private, 24, Male
Charge: Driving under the influence, laying drag
Location: Hinesville, Ga.

Subject: Sergeant, 23, Male
Charge: Accidental injury
Location: Fort Stewart

Subject: Specialist, 23, Male
Charge: Failure to yield right of way
Location: Hunter AAF

Subject: Specialist, 24, Male
Charge: Driving while license suspended, speeding
Location: Hunter AAF

Subject: Family Member, 20, Female
Charge: Damage to private property
Location: Fort Stewart

Legal Notice

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of **SPC Prince, Benjamin D.**, HHT 6-8 CAV, 4th BDE, FT. STEWART, GA 31314, contact CPT Ryan McDermott, HHT, 6-8 CAV, FT. STEWART, GA 31314, phone: 912.435-2122. (2)

Hiring initiative allows IED survivors to fight back

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Servicemembers seriously injured by improvised explosive devices during duty in the Global War on Terrorism are getting a unique opportunity to use their experience to combat and prevent future IED attacks.

The Joint IED Defeat Organization here has entered into full partnership with the Operation Warfighter program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in an initiative to target, recruit and hire servicemembers, including many who have suffered serious injuries from IED attacks.

Operation Warfighter is a nationwide program that places wounded servicemembers in positions within the federal government.

Thanks to this partnership, these servicemembers can now continue their service to the nation working for the Joint IED Defeat Organization, and can possibly transition into government service or civilian positions in the same organization once they leave active duty.

"This is an opportunity for these true heroes to get back into the fight," said Sgt. Maj. Clifford Lovejoy, who oversaw the recruitment and hiring of 22 Soldiers.

Five of them are currently on staff at the Joint IED Defeat Organization, which was created in October 2003 originally as an

Army task force to serve as the single focal point for all Defense Department IED defeat activities.

Using a balance of intelligence, training and technology, the organization wages a coordinated campaign to defeat current and future IED threats endangering joint and Coalition Forces, officials said.

"This organization will certainly benefit from the presence, experience and competencies of recuperating Operation War Fighter personnel who have been injured as a result of an IED attack," said Brig. Gen. Dan Allyn, the JIEDDO's deputy director. "They have first-hand knowledge of the threat and the challenges being faced in the theater. Synergies will be gained by having them integrated into the staff here."

This initiative also provides valuable support services for the servicemembers brought into the organization.

JIEDDO supervisors oversee the transportation needs of each individual, arranging for parking and transit passes as appropriate.

More importantly, the work week is modified for each member to accommodate rehabilitation needs at Walter Reed.

"Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, I leave at lunch and spend the rest of the day at Walter Reed for rehab," said Army National Guardsman Lt. Col. Dennis

"(IED survivors) have first-hand knowledge of the threat and the challenges being faced in the theater. Synergies will be gained by having them integrated into the staff here."

Brig. Gen. Dan Allyn
JIEDDO deputy director

Walburn, who started at JIEDDO Feb. 14, and was the second OWF volunteer to arrive. "I am thankful for this opportunity, because I realize that there are guys out there who have it worse."

Walburn lost his left leg above the knee as a result of an IED blast in Mosul, Iraq, in May 2005.

His treatment at Walter Reed moved into a less rigorous phase and he eagerly wanted to work in an area where he could continue to help the deployed troops.

He then learned of the JIEDDO recruitment of IED survivors.

The JIEDDO recruiting effort at Walter Reed began Jan. 17. After open advertising of the opportunities, 65 personnel were interviewed.

Those on staff are assigned to various

positions in the organization where they contribute to the effort to defeat the IED threat.

Walburn is assigned to the Strategic Communications Division, where he is assisting in congressional affairs, public affairs and industry outreach initiatives. Lovejoy said that although all of the 22 original selectees are from the Army, the program will grow and eventually include servicemembers from other services who are injured due to IED attacks.

"We are looking for the best, the brightest and the most capable to join the team," he said. "Getting all of the services involved allows us to merge this whole team into the best you can have to win the war on terror."

(Based on a Joint IED Defeat Organization news release.)

Iraqis take lead in tactical ops with up-armored vehicles

Sgt. Kristin Kemplin
363rd MPAD

BAGHDAD – The 6th Iraqi Army Division's military police frequently patrol the streets of Baghdad in light-utility vehicles that offer no more protection than a standard pickup truck. But thanks to the Iraqi Ministry of Defense, MPs are getting a new, professional look this year.

Driving 4.5-ton Polish-made armored personnel carriers emblazoned with the Iraqi flag, these MPs now look like a formidable force on the streets.

The aptly named "Dzik-3" -- dzik is Polish for "wild boar" -- is a super-utility vehicle with all-around armor, bulletproof windows, puncture-proof tires and smoke launchers. The unique structure of the firing ports built into the vehicle gives it a competitive edge against the enemy.

"Now these Soldiers are protected from any attack, because the rifle muzzle is the only thing outside the vehicle," said Lt. Col. Ahmed Joseph Ibraheem, commander of the 6th IAD's military police company.

"We are in 2006 and we are trying to build a new army. So why not bring new equipment and vehicles to match with the year we are in?" Ibraheem said. His company received four of the brand-new vehicles at the end of March.

Iraq's defense ministry "saw the need for the MPs to get better vehicles and get out into the fight," said U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Rogers, an adviser with the 4th Infantry Division's military transition team.

After purchasing 600 of the vehicles from the Polish Army for a reported \$100 million last November, the Iraqi Defense Ministry launched the first Dzik training course last month. Instructors from the ministry began teaching selected Soldiers from all the brigades within the division on the vehicle's basic weapons systems, driving techniques and communication systems.

Using the techniques of the American military,

the Defense Ministry conducted an experiment with "train the trainer" teaching methods and encouraged the 30 members of the first class to return to their respective units and train up their personnel.

The training is still in the experimental phase. Once the Soldiers have successfully trained themselves and conducted missions while reducing lost lives on the battlefield, more vehicles will be handed down to the units.

"The insurgents will see this vehicle, which is armored and equipped with the best technology, and it will give the Soldiers more trust and intimidate the insurgents," said Warrant Officer Ali Houssen Abed, an instructor at the Ministry of Defense Up-armored Vehicles Training Facility. The MP company commander hopes to receive more vehicles if the experiment proves to be successful.

After graduating from the course March 16, the military police company's eight drivers "went back and trained their other Soldiers," Rogers said. "They are about 80 percent complete in training the rest of the company on the Dzik."

Working with Coalition Forces, the MP company conducted its first mission with the Dzik on March 29. The mission was a personal security detail, with American Soldiers in the lead.

Since the success of that mission, the troops have continued to go on missions and have gained confidence in the vehicles. They have advanced so quickly they are now taking the lead in personal security convoys with Coalition Forces.

"They are in the lead," Rogers said. "They've got a lot more swagger in their step now that they are leading."

The vehicles will enhance the visibility of Iraqi Soldiers on Baghdad's streets as well as separate them from terrorists, who commonly use pickup trucks to direct small-arms fire at Coalition Forces. These vehicles, stenciled with proper markings and identification, will identify the Soldiers as



Sgt. Kristin Kemplin

Iraqi military police gunners mount up and prepare their positions in the new Polish Army vehicles April 4. The Dzik-3 has a standard machine-gun weapons mount for the gunner. Complete with gun shields and hatch halves, it offers Soldiers all-around protection.

legitimate military police if they ever need to cross over into another Iraqi brigade's battlespace, Rogers said.

But the training has not been without its challenges, Ibraheem said. The instructors and leaders alike felt it would be beneficial for the Polish Army to come and give them hands-on training with the vehicles.

"The communication system is not an American product. It is also new to the Americans," Ibraheem said. He praised the military transition team for its ability to adapt and help the Soldiers to work with a system that is foreign to both coun-

tries' armies.

Getting 11 people to fit in the vehicle as the Polish have designed it is another challenge, Abed said.

Another daunting task for the Iraqi Army is proving itself as a good Army, Rogers said.

"(Iraqis) are building their army in the middle of a war," Rogers said. "They are standing up an army in a combat operations tempo, and they are doing an unbelievable job."

"Now if we have a mission anywhere, even a harsh, dangerous place, the Soldiers in my platoon compete to get on the missions," Ibraheem said.